

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An extrusion molding apparatus for a ceramic molded product, comprising a mold for molding a ceramic molded product, a screw extruder for supplying a ceramic material to the mold, and a filter unit for filtering the ceramic material at the extrusion outlet of said screw extruder,

wherein said screw extruder has built therein a screw for kneading while moving the ceramic material forward, and has on the front part thereof a spatula portion adapted to move over the inlet surface of the filter unit with a predetermined interval between the spatula portion and the inlet surface.

2. An extrusion molding apparatus for a ceramic molded product according to claim 1, wherein the interval between the spatula portion and the inlet surface is in the range of not more than 30 mm.

3. An extrusion molding apparatus for a ceramic molded product according to claim 1, wherein the interval between said spatula portion and said inlet surface is in the range of 0.1 to 30 mm.

4. An extrusion molding apparatus for a ceramic molded product according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said spatula portion is so configured as to move while rotating over the inlet surface of the filter unit.

5. An extrusion molding apparatus for a ceramic molded product according to claim 4, wherein said spatula portion is extended from the forward end of the screw and configured to rotate while moving with the screw.

6. An extrusion molding apparatus for a ceramic molded product according to claim 5, wherein said screw includes a lead portion arranged spirally around an axial member, the lead portion having the forward end thereof forming the spatula portion.

7. An extrusion molding apparatus for a ceramic molded product according to claim 5, wherein said spatula portion is configured of a plurality of blades arranged

on the foremost axial portion extended from the forward end of the screw.

5        8.    An extrusion molding apparatus for a ceramic molded product according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein said spatula portion preferably has a tapered surface inclined in such a manner as to move away from the inlet surface progressively with respect to the direction of movement.

10       9.    An extrusion molding apparatus for a ceramic molded product according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein said ceramic molded product is a honeycomb structure.

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